

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 DHA-02 TRSE-00
AID-05 /105 W
-----124946 091525Z /47

R 091000Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0151
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 4639/1

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PORG, OAU, PINT, SG
SUBJECT: SENGHOR EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH SENEGAL'S RELATION
WITH US AND WITH MODERATES' SUCCESS AT OAU SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. DURING MY FAREWELL CALL ON PRESIDENT SENGHOR
JULY 7, HE SAID SUCCESS OF REASONABLE LEADERS AT LIBREVILLE
OAU SUMMIT REFLECTED NEW DETERMINATION THAT AFRICA WOULD NOT
BE DOMINATED BY EXTREMISTS. HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY US MIDDLE
EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN POLICIES BUT SAW NEED FOR US LEADERS
TO CORRECT IMPRESSION THAT NEW EMPHASIS FAVORED RADICAL AFRICAN
REGIMES OVER MORE MODERATE COUNTRIES. DESPITE INCREASING
ACTIVITY ON POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCENE IN SENEGAL BUILDING UP
TO EARLY 1978 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, SENGHOR FELT IN FULL CONTROL
OF SITUATION AND PREDICTED HIS SOCIALIST PARTY WOULD GET 85
PERCENT OF VOTE. HE FELT US-SENEGALESE DIALOGUE HAD
REACHED EXTREMELY PRODUCTIVE STAGE, PRAISED MY MISSION
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AND PLEDGED FULL AND FRANK DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION WITH
AMBASSADOR COHEN, WHOM HE PLANS TO RECEIVE JULY 22.
END SUMMARY.

2. OPENING EXTREMELY WARM 40 MINUTE FAREWELL CALL,
SENGHOR CONGRATULATED EMBASSY ON INAUGURATION OF NEW
CHANCERY (DAKAR 4613), NOTING HIS PLEASURE IN MY EXCHANGE OF

REMARKS WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERIOR COLLIN WHICH HE SAW ON TV AFTER RETURNING FROM LIBREVILLE. TURNING TO OAU SUMMIT, HE SAID REASONABLE AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE HAD GONE TO GABON IN FORCE AND THEIR VICTORIES ON SEVERAL ISSUES THERE REFLECTED NEW DETERMINATION NOT TO BE DOMINATED BY RADICAL EXTREMISTS. REASONABLE STATES WOULD KEEP UP DIALOGUE AMONG THEMSELVES AND NOT ABDICATE LEADERSHIP TO FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION AND CUBA. HE FELT SENEGAL EMERGED WITH A NEW LEADERSHIP ROLE AMONG REASONABLE STATES.

3. SENGHOR SAID BOTH US MIDDLE EAST EFFORTS AND AMERICA'S GALVANIZING ROLE IN WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA DREW PRAISE FROM MANY AFRICAN LEADERS IN LIBREVILLE. SADAT AND NUMAYRI OF EGYPT AND SUDAN EXPRESSED THEIR GREAT CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S LEADERSHIP, A CONFIDENCE SENGHOR SAID HE SHARED. HE LOOKED FORWARD TO OPPORTUNITY FOR FACE TO FACE DIALOGUE WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF ADMINISTRATION.

4. SENGHOR FEARED MANY ESTABLISHED AMERICAN FRIENDS IN AFRICA WERE MISREADING US DESIRE FOR RELATIONS WITH ALL AFRICAN REGIMES AS NEW FAVOR FOR RADICALS. THIS WAS UNFORTUNATE AT TIME WHEN ALGERIAN ENCOURAGEMENT OF POLISARIO INCURSIONS THREATENED MAURITANIA'S STABILITY AND GAVE MOROCCO NO ALTERNATIVE BUT A MILITARY BUILD-UP. OVERTURES TO ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE ALSO WERE NOT UNDER-CONFIDENTIAL

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STOOD BY SOME STATES WHICH FELT THEY DID NOT RECEIVE PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM NEW ADMINISTRATION THEY DESERVED.

5. I ASSURED SENGHOR THAT US POLICY IN NO WAY INTENDED TO NEGLECT ITS OLD FRIENDS OR TO ENCOURAGE IDEOLOGICAL SPLIT IN AFRICA. PRIORITY ATTENTION HAD GONE TO AREAS OF CONFLICT AND TENSION IN SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA AND CONTACTS ESTABLISHED WERE IN INTEREST OF ENCOURAGING AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS. US REAFFIRMATION OF SUPPORT TO SAHEL DEVELOPMENT, MADE IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO MEETING OF SAHEL CLUB IN OTTAWA, WAS ONE OF SEVERAL RECENT EVIDENCES OF SUPPORT TO SENEGAL AND OTHER STATES HE MIGHT CLASSIFY AS REASONABLE. OUR AFRICA POLICY, AS MOST RECENTLY STATED BY SECRETARY VANCE IN NAACP SPEECH, SEEKS TO BROADEN OUR DIALOGUE WITH AFRICAN STATES, INCLUDING THOSE WITH WHOM WE DO NOT AGREE. OUR RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA, AND OUR CONTACTS WITH ANGOLA, WHATEVER THEIR QUALITY, ARE NOT PURSUED AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES.

6. SENGHOR NODDED AND SAID THAT ALGERIANS WERE JEALOUS THAT AT LIBREVILLE SENEGAL ASSUMED LEADERSHIP ROLE THEY FELT WAS THEIR PRESERVE. HE CONSIDERED

ALGERIANS AND LIBYAN AFRICA POLICIES MAJOR DESTABILIZING INFLUENCES ALONG WITH THOSE OF SOVIETS AND CUBANS. OTHER AFRICAN STATES AGREED AND SADAT AND NUMAYRI PLEDGED THEIR ARMED SUPPORT TO SENEGAL IF ATTACKED BY EXTERNAL FORCES. ALGERIA WAS NOT FRIEND. IT AIDED AND ABETTED CHEIKH ANTA DIOP (HEAD OF ILLEGAL RND PARTY) AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER MAMADOU DIA, BOTH OF WHOM OPPOSED HIS REGIME.

7. I ASKED SENGHOR FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION. HE ACKNOWLEDGED ATMOSPHERE BECOMING MORE ELECTRIC WITH STRIKES AND GROWTH OF NOT ALWAYS RESPONSIBLE OPPOSITION AND CLANDESTINE PRESS. GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARING TO STRENGTHEN ITS LIBEL STATUTES. PRESS
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WOULD BE NO MORE REGULATED THAN IN EUROPE BUT PUBLIC FIGURES DESERVED MORE PROTECTION AGAINST DEFAMATION. OPPOSITION PARTY ACTIVITY WAS HEALTHY BUT OPPOSITION MUST PLAY FAIR. IN WHAT HE INTENDED WOULD BE FAIR ELECTION IN EARLY 1978, SENGHOR SAID, HE EXPECTED HIS SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) TO GAIN 85 PERCENT OF VOTES. OPPOSITION STRENGTH WAS IN DAKAR AMONG FRUSTRATED INTELLECTUALS. HE HAD INSISTED ON PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION TO MAKE CERTAIN SOME NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEATS WENT TO OPPOSITION. PS WOULD CONCENTRATE ON RURAL AREAS WHERE HE BUILT HIS BASE AMONG THE PEASANTS IN HIS FIRST ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNS. THAT SENGHOR SEEMED CONFIDENT OF VICTORY WAS FURTHER EVIDENT IN HIS REITERATION OF HIS PLANS TO GO TO US IN JUNE, 1977 AFTER STATE VISIT IN FRANCE.

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
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INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 DAKAR 4639/2

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PORT, OAU, PINT, SG
SUBJECT: SENGHOR EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH SENEGAL'S RELATION
WITH US AND WITH MODERATES' SUCCESS AT OAU SUMMIT

8. FINALLY, SENGHOR COMPLIMENTED ME ON MY MISSION
IN SENEGAL AND SAID HE WAS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH STATE OF
OUR RELATIONS. HE OFFERED HIS BEST WISHES FOR SUCCESS IN
A NEXT ASSIGNMENT. I ASSURED HIM US-SENEGALESE CONSULTA-
TION AND COOPERATION WOULD BE FOSTERED BY MY SUCCESSOR WITH
WHOM I HAD WORKED IN PARIS, KINSHASA, AND WASHINGTON.
SENGHOR SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO RECEIVING AMBASSADOR COHEN
ON JULY 22 AND TO CONTINUING MUTUALLY PROFITABLE RELATION-
SHIP.

9. IN MEETING WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL PRIOR TO FAREWELL
AUDIENCE, I LEARNED THAT SAHEL DEVELOPMENT TRIP SENGHOR
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PLANNED TO PERSIAN GULF STATES FOR JULY 10 TO 20 WITH PRESIDENT
MOKTAR OULD DADDAH SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN POSTPONED, POSSIBLY DUE
TO POLISARIO'S ATTACK ON NOUAKCHOTT.

10. COMMENT: SENGHOR APPEARED IN EXCELLENT HEALTH
AND WAS IN FINE SPIRIT, PROBABLY BUOYED BY SUCCESS OF
MODERATE EFFORTS IN LIBREVILLE. IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE
ALSO CONSIDERED DEDICATION OF NEW US EMBASSY FIRM COMMIT-
MENT TO ONGOING DIALOGUE. AMBASSADOR COHEN WILL TAKE
OVER IN SENEGAL CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE IN AND RESPECT
FOR THE UNITED STATES AS A DISCERNING AND SPECIAL
FRIEND.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

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